

REMARKS

Review and reconsideration on the merits are requested.

Claim 1 has also been amended to correct a typographical error with respect to the group -SO₃M represented by A.

In response to a first rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, there was no intent in the remarks portion of the Amendment filed April 25, 2008 to represent that a treatment target substance *moiety* contains water. Rather, as described at page 6, lines 12-13 of the specification, the treatment target substance comprises a fluorine-containing surfactant and water, and may take a form as described, for example, at page 6, lines 13-18 and at page 11, lines 27-35 of the specification. For example, the treatment target substance (1) is an aqueous dispersion comprising a dispersoid dispersed in water as an aqueous medium in the presence of the fluorine-containing surfactant.

It is respectfully submitted that the present claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as their invention, and withdrawal of the foregoing rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

In response to the second rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, the specification and claims have been amended to define the substance comprising carbon dioxide contacting the treatment target substance as the substance B, so as not to confuse with the group A of formula (1) and (2) which represents -SO₃M or -COOM. There is no change in claim scope, and none is intended.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended fully comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, and withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is respectfully requested.

With regard to the obviousness-double patenting rejection over Appln. No. 10/525,847, Applicants advise that Appln. No. 10/525,847 has been abandoned such that the rejection is moot. Withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), (b) or (e) as being anticipated by EP 0 442 679 (EP '679) or U.S. Patent 5,780,565 (U.S. '565).

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-18 and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP '679 or U.S. '565.

Applicants rely on the response filed April 25, 2008, incorporated herein by reference, and which the Examiner indicates will be reconsidered upon clarification of the claim language in response to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested as placing this case in condition for allowance.

Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of claims 1, 5, 6, 8-18 and 20 is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Application No.: 10/562,731

Attorney Docket No.: Q91786

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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